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NEWS.

DR. F. CZAPEK has been called to the assistant professorship of botany and technical microscopy in the German Institute of Technology in Prag.

PROF. DR. HUGO DE VRIES has been called to the directorate of the botanical garden at Amsterdam made vacant by the recent retirement of Dr. Oudemans.

PROF. DR. K. MÜLLER of the royal school of technology at Berlin has undertaken, as a side duty, the botanical instruction in the royal horticultural institute in Potsdam-Wildpark.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY at its recent sesquicentennial conferred the degree LL.D. upon George Lincoln Goodale, Fisher professor of natural history and director of the botanical garden in Harvard University.

DR. A. HANSGIRG will discuss in a large work which he is preparing for the press, upon the general lines of his *Phytodynamische Untersuchungen*, ombrophoby in flowers, resistance of pollen to water, gamo- and carpotropic movements, and similar curvatures.

THE CATALOGUE of microscopes and laboratory apparatus just issued by the Bausch & Lomb Optical Co. is more than a mere trade list and will well repay examination by those interested in laboratory appliances. Among the novelties the Hastings' aplanatic triplets and the attachable mechanical stage may be commended most heartily.

ON OCTOBER 10th the botanical seminar of the University of Nebraska celebrated its decennial. There have been only twenty members of various ranks in the ten years, of whom ten are in residence in 1896. It is truly remarkable how much valuable work this society has done under the inspiration of its indefatigable leader, Dr. Bessey.

THE TREE, *Saccoglottis Amazonica* Martius, which produces one of the "drift fruits" that long puzzled West Indian botanists, has been rediscovered upon Trinidad. The source of the fruits was established by the sketches of Crüger who collected specimens of the tree upon Trinidad years ago. The superintendent of the Trinidad gardens, Mr. J. H. Hart, sent a collector to hunt up the trees, and after two expeditions he was successful in securing not only good herbarium specimens but also flowers and fruits in alcohol, and seeds from which the gardens have raised some healthy plants.